

HOW TO PLOT A GRAPH

Sample data: Plot a Temperature vs. Number of Bacteria graph for the following data.



Temp (°C)	Number of bacteria
20	500
40	1000
60	150
80	20
100	0

1. USE A PENCIL
2. Lay out the axes.
3. Draw a horizontal and vertical axis.

Y

- Put dependent variable on the vertical (\updownarrow) axis. It depends on the other variable.

X

- Put independent variable on the horizontal (\longleftrightarrow) axis. It controls or determines the other variable.

- Label each axis and include units.
4. Choose a scale so that all points fit on the graph. It fills the page and the scale is easy to use.
 5. Plot points with a small and clear dot.
 6. For this data, draw the 'line of best fit'. Draw a smooth line that passes through or between the most points.
 7. Complete the graph with a title and your name.

Try this:**Graph 1**

x-axis: Time (min)	y-axis: Temp (°C)
0	0
3	1
6	15
9	25
12	55
15	80

Graph 2

In an experiment, 250 ml of room temperature water was heated and the temperature recorded every 4 minutes. The temperatures were in degrees Celsius were 21, 29, 37, 45 and 53. On your graph paper create a table similar to the one above to record the data, starting with 0 minutes. Graph the data.